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NBC

FARM AND HOME HOUR

ADVERTISER

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS-376

WRITER

PROGRAM TITLE

WMAQ-BLUE

OK

CHICAGO OUTLET

11:30-12:15 PM

MARCH 1, 1940

FRIDAY

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TIME

DATE

DAY

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

1. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers
2. ORCHESTRA: QUARTET: Ranger Song
3. ANNOUNCER: The magic of fine fur has intrigued man - and women - all
4. through the ages. Articles of clothing made from the
5. skins of fur bearing animals have been among man's most prized possessions
6. since time immemorial. Trappers searching for fur to supply the
7. tremendous European market were the first to explore the American
8. frontier. And in the early days the catch of fur bearing animals in
9. the forests of America and the income from the sale of pelts was
10. fabulous. Unrestricted trapping in earlier days seriously reduced the
11. numbers of fur bearing animals in the United States and in some places
12. they were almost entirely exterminated. A large amount of fur today
13. comes from our agricultural areas and domestic fur farms. But this
14. does not mean that fur has ceased to be an important resource of the
15. wild highland forests where it was once most plentiful. On the
16. contrary, even though a great deal still remains to be done, protection
17. in the form of better State game laws and better game law enforcement
18. has helped to rebuild the numbers of fur bearing animals in many of
19. their native haunts. And the great bulk of our fur, including probably
20. the finest and most precious furs, still come from timbered areas. In
21. many of the western National Forests, for instance, trapping remains
22. an important industry -- furnishing employment and a source of income
23. for hundreds of men every winter. (MORE)

1. ANNOUNCER: (CONTINUED) The United States Forest Service recognizes
2. the value of the fur crop in the National Forests and
3. in cooperation with the various State Game Departments,
4. sportsmen's clubs, and the United States Biological
5. Survey they are making every effort to build up and
6. maintain a sufficient number of fur bearing animals in
7. the National Forests to place trapping on a stable,
8. sustained yield basis for all time.
9. During the past few days Ranger Jim Robbins and his
10. assistant Jerry Quick out on the Pine Cone National
11. Forest have been busy working up a special wildlife report
12. which Bert Ellsworth, the Forest Supervisor, wants to
13. include in a report to the State Fish and Game Department.
14. As we look in now we find Jim and Jerry in the office of
15. the ranger station:
16. JERRY: (FADING IN) This part here is the sticker, Jim. It
17. says: list kinds, numbers and distribution of fur
18. bearing animals. We can list the kinds and distribution
19. all right but how are we gonna give them any dope on the
20. numbers of fur bearers?
21. JIM: We've got some figures on fur bearers in this district
22. filed away some where around here, Jerry. It should be
23. right with the rest of our wildlife statistics in that
24. folder you've got there on your desk.
25.

1. JERRY: It's funny I didn't run across them before. (SOUND OF
2. PAPERS BEING SHUFFLED) Here's the big game statistic.
3. But there doesn't seem to be anything here on fur-beasters.
4. JIM: It should be over toward the back somewhere. I know the
5. information's there some where because I wrote it up and
6. put it in there .. unless somebody's been fooling around
7. with the files and got them all out of whack again.
8. JERRY: Huh? Nobody gets at these files but you and me. You're
9. not inferring that I'd get anything out of place, are you
10. JIM: (CHUCKLES) If you didn't I don't know who would, Jerry.
11. You certainly wouldn't accuse me of misplacing anything.
12. JERRY: (SNORTS) Huh. Not much. Half a dozen times you've been
13. tearing your hair around here looking for something or
14. other and it's always turned up right there on your desk.
15. You know what Mrs. Robbins says. She says you can't keep
16. track of anything unless it's hooked right on to you.
17. JIM: (CHUCKLES) Haven't you found those figures yet? Maybe
18. I'll have to come over there and show them to you.
19. JERRY: H-m-m. (SOUND OF PAPER RATTLING) I guess this must be
20. what you mean right here. It was clear in the back of
21. the folder on a separate sheet of paper.
22. JIM: That's it. I think you can get most of the information
23. you need right there.
24.
25.

1. JERRY: BUT gosh, Jim. These figures can't be accurate. How
2. do we know how many marten there are up around Windy
3. Peak, for instance? Or how many mink there are up
4. along the North Fork?

5. JIM: Well, Jerry, we don't claim any of our wildlife counts
6. are a hundred percent accurate. It wouldn't be possible
7. to get a hundred percent count of all the wildlife on
8. the Winding Creek District or any other district for
9. that matter. The game counts we have are just
10. estimates. And that's all we say they are.

11. JERRY: In other words they're just guesses.

12. JIM: Sa-ay. You've never been on a winter game reconnaissance,
13. have you? I'll have to speak to Bert Ellsworth about
14. that and see you get a chance to do some game study work.
15. Once you've spent two or three months of the winter back
16. in the brush on game studies you won't get estimates
17. and guesses mixed up so easy.

18. JERRY: Well, what's the difference?

19. JIM: You make an estimate from known facts. We don't just
20. sit here in the office and make a lot of wild guesses
21. on the number of animals in the forest.

22. JERRY: That's something I've always meant to ask you about, Jim.
23. How do you get the data these wildlife estimates are
24. based on?
25.

1. JIM: Well in the winter time the elk and deer are most all
2. bunched up and you can make an actual count. Or you
3. can make a fairly good estimate from the tracks in the
4. snow -- or by the way the browse is eaten off. Then
5. too it's pretty much a matter of year round observation.
6. You remember how we found out the moose were coming
7. back in around the head of Grizzly Creek? (CHUCKLES)
8. Or you should.

9. JERRY: Huh? Boy! I'll say. I'll never forget the way
10. Old One Ear put us up that tree.... But Jim, I can see
11. how we can get a pretty close cross-section of the big
12. game animals ... like elk, and moose, and deer, and bear.
13. But how in the heck can you count marten, or mink, or
14. weasels? Shucks, we never see one of those kind of
15. animals once in a blue moon.

16. JIM: Well, maybe that's just because you haven't been around
17. in the woods enough, Jerry. But you do have to look
18. mighty sharp to see the fur-bearers, all right. The
19. way we get a count on them is by watching for tracks
20. and signs of them wherever we happen to be... I'll have
21. to give you some lessons in woods lore, I guess. We've
22. been so busy fighting fire and cruising timber and other
23. things that that's one thing I've sort of overlooked.

24. JERRY: It must be darned interesting.
25.

1. JIM: Yep, it is There's another way we get a pretty good
2. idea of the number of fur bearing animals, Jerry, and
3. that's from the trappers. If a trapper has a good season
4. we figure there's been an increase in fur-bearing animals
5. and if he has a bad season we can be pretty sure the
6. numbers are falling off again. You take Joe Le Moine
7. now ...

8. JERRY: You mean that crazy French Canadian that runs a trap line
9. up there around Windy Peak?

10. JIM: (CHUCKLES) Joe may be crazy, but he's crazy like a fox.
11. He knows more about the game and wildlife in this country
12. than anybody else around here. If he tells you there's
13. a hundred and two marten up there in that Windy Peak
14. country, you can mighty near count on it that there's a
15. hundred and two marten.

16. JERRY: Well just the same I never figured I'd trust him very
17. far. He never looks you in the eye, and the way he
18. moves around .. boy, it gives me the willies. He just
19. seems to appear and disappear without any warning at all.
20. I never saw anybody move as quick and quiet as he does, ..
21. just like a cat. And livin' alone way up there in the
22. mountains like he does ... it just isn't human.
23.
24.
25.

1. JIM: (CHUCKLES) You just haven't got acquainted with Joe,
2. Jerry. Maybe he is a little bit queer but he's one of
3. the old breed of mountain men. He loves these old hills
4. and the outdoors even more than I do. And I'll vouch ...
5. LIGHT KNOCK ON DOOR
6. JERRY: (QUICKLY) What was that?
7. JIM: Sounded like a knock on the door.
8. JERRY: I didn't see anybody or hear anybody come up ... it
9. kinda startled me.
10. KNOCK ON DOOR SLIGHTLY LOUDER
11. JIM: There's somebody there all right. Open the door, Jerry,
12. and see who it is.
13. SOUND OF DOOR BEING OPENED.
14. JERRY: (OFF) Well for the ...
15. JOE: (SLIGHTLY OFF MIKE) (DELIGHTED SOMEWHAT CHILDISH
16. LAUGHTER) She's surprise heem, no? (MORE LAUGHTER)
17. JERRY: Surprise is right. What d'you mean sneaking up on us
18. like this? You're liable to get shot or something
19. sometime coming up on people that way. Don't you know
20. that?
21. JOE: (SLIGHTLY OFF) No, no. Joe no get shoot. (LAUGHS
22. ASSUREDLY) Joe shoot first.
23. JIM: Well there, Joe Le Moine, you old devil. Come on in here
24. and shut the door. We were just talking about you,
25. wondering how you're getting along.

1. JOE: (COMING ON) Ha, Jeem, she's good by fires these kind
2. weather.....You no come see Joe on Weendy Peak thees
3. weentaire.
4. JIM: No sir, Joe, I haven't been up that way this winter.
5. But it's not because I didn't want to. It's on account
6. of all this confounded paper work here.
7. JOE: Ugh. Papaire work. Feegures. All a time feegures...
8. She's no good. She's bad. Ver' bad.
9. JIM: (LAUGHS) Well, I'll admit I'd rather do my rangering
10. out in the woods with you, Joe. But somebody's got to
11. do the paper work...By the way, I haven't seen you
12. shake hands with my assistant here. You remember Jerry
13. Quick, don't you?
14. JOE: Shure, shure. Jerree. (TRIUMPHANTLY) Hees try scare
15. moose on Greezlees Creek. (LAUGHS)
16. JERRY: (RUFFLED) How in heck did you ever find out about that?
17. JOE: (GREATLY AMUSED) Hees wondaire how Joe fine out?
18. (SHORT LAUGH) That's good, heh, Jeem. (LAUGHS) Een
19. woods Joe hees fine out ever' ting.
20. JIM: Well, that's no lie. When Old One Ear had Jerry and me
21. up that tree last fall I wouldn't be at all surprised
22. but what you were sitting up on the hill somewhere
23. watching the whole show and laughin' your head off. How
24. is that onery old reprobate anyhow? Is he still hangin'
25. around up there in Grizzly Creek?

1. JOE: Ho, Jeem. Those moose she's still there, you bet. Ho,
2. she's no move no more now. She's got wife and keed, by
3. gar.

4. JIM: (CHUCKLES) Those are the ties that bind, huh, Joe? When
5. a man or a moose gets himself a family he's got to settle
6. down.

7. JOE: You betcha my life. That's so.

8. JIM: Well, Joe, what brings you down to town this time of the
9. year? Isn't the trapping any good this winter?

10. JOE: Oh shure, Jeem, shure. Those trap she's fine. Lots a
11. fur these year. But Joe got no toback.

12. JERRY: You mean you snowshoed all the way down here from Windy
13. Peak in this cold weather just for some tobacco?

14. JOE: Poof! Joe comes through snow "whoosh." Jus' lak so.
15. She's no good without toback. She's bad, by gar.

16. JIM: (CHUCKLING) Well, Joe, take off your coat and hat and
17. put your gun and pack down somewhere. You can't get out
18. of here without staying for supper. Bess'll be right on
19. your trail if you try it.

20. JOE: Oh those Meesus, Jeem. She's fine and dandy, yes?

21. JIM: Yes, Joe, Bess has been fine all winter. She's been
22. wondering about you. Ever since that winter you came down
23. with the flu and she had to nurse you back on your feet
24. again, she's had a special interest in you. She's been
25. worried about whether you've been warm enough up there on
the hill.

1. JOE: (ECSTATICALLY) Oh Jeem, those Meesus Robbains, she's
 2. one gran' lady. She's save Joe's life, by gar.
 3. JIM: Joe was down here one winter a few years back, Jerry.
 4. He came down with the flu and almost got pneumonia.
 5. Bess didn't think he was gettin' the care he ought to
 6. have living all by himself so she had him brought up
 7. here 'till he got back on his feet again.
 8. JERRY: NO wonder he thinks Mrs. Robbins is all right.
 9. JIM: I'll give Bess a call, Joe, and let her know you're here.
 10. She'll be glad to see you.
 11. JOE: Oh no, no, Jeem. Joe hees bring the Meesus Robbains
 12. leetle geeft. But hees no stay. Hees, what you call,
 13. heet those trail, queek now.
 14. JIM: Oh no, Joe. You can't start back to Windy Peak tonight.
 15. We'll put a good meal under your belt and you can bunk
 16. out there in the bunk-house. The boys are all gone, so
 17. you can have it all to yourself..Just a minute and I'll
 18. give Bess a call.
 19. SOUND OF DOOR OPENING
 20. JIM: (CALLS) Bess, Oh Bess!
 21. BESS: (OFF MIKE) What is it Jim?
 22. JIM: (CALLS) There's a friend of yours in here.
 23. BESS: (COMING ON) A friend of mine? (SURPRISED) Oh! Oh,
 24. for heaven's sake! Joe Le Moine! I was just telling Jim
 25. he ought to go up your way and see how you're getting
 along!

1. JOE: (ABASHED) Oh Meesus, Meesus Robbins. Joe hees ...
 2. Joe jus' bring you leetle present.
 3. BESS: What? A present for me? Well Joe, what can it be?
 4. You're always bringing me something .. trout, or
 5. venison, or huckleberries .. or something. Oh and
 6. you've got it all wrapped up for me.
 7. JIM: Open it up Bess. Let's see what it is.
 8. BESS: Now just a minute Jim. (SOUND OF PAPER RATTLING)
 9. Whatever it is you can be sure it will be mighty
 10. nice. (MORE PAPER RATTLING) THERE. Now I'll get
 11. the lid off the box. (THRILLED) Oh, oh, Joe. You
 12. can't give me these. Oh they're lovely! They're
 13. beautiful!
 14. JOE: (VERY DELIGHTED) You like heem, hey?
 15. BESS: Like it? Jim, just look. Did you ever see anything so
 16. beautiful?
 17. JIM: By gosh, I don't think I ever have. That's about the
 18. finest pair of matched marten hides I've ever seen.
 19. JERRY: Gosh, those must be worth a lot of money. Gee!
 20. BESS: Joe, these must be the pick of your whole winter's catch.
 21. What a perfectly lovely neckpiece. And they're all
 22. tanned. I'll bet you tanned them yourself. Oh what
 23. beautiful, beautiful skins.
 24. JIM: What would those hides bring, Joe? Looks to me like they
 25. ought to be worth sixty or seventy dollars.

1. BESS: Oh Joe, you can't give them to me. You take them and
 2. sell them and buy yourself some new warm clothes.
 3. JOE: Ho, ees nothing, nothing. Joe hees got plenty cloes ..
 4. an' plenty monies too. Fine furs for fine ladies. Joes
 5. save um, what you call, special, for her.
 6. BESS: Well, Joe. I don't know what to say. I simply can't
 7. thank you enough for them. I- I'm so happy .. I - I
 8. just want to cry.
 9. JIM: Joe knows how you feel, Bess. And I've invited him to
 10. stay for supper and to spend the night here at the
 11. station. You can get even with him at the supper table.
 12. JERRY: Gee, Mrs. Robbins, Mary'll sure get a kick out of seeing
 13. those furs .. When you get them fixed up to wear you're
 14. going to be the talk of the town.
 15. BESS: (UNSTEADY VOICE) Oh Joe .. you .. you shouldn't have ..
 16. Oh (BREAKING VOICE HURRIEDLY FADING OUT) I- I - d-don't
 17. know what to say. (SOUND OF DOOR CLOSING)
 18. JERRY: (AWED) Gosh! I've seen Bess in a lot of tight spots but
 19. I never saw her act like that before.
 20. JOE: (VERY CONCERNED) Jeem! Hees no lak Joe's geeft?
 21. JIM: (KINDLY) Now don't you worry about Bess, Joe. That's
 22. just a woman's way. Mrs. Robbins likes your gift more
 23. than she can tell you, Joe. (CHUCKLES) If you don't
 24. think so you just wait 'till you sit down to the table
 25. tonight and see. I've got a hunch there's going to be a
 feed here tonight that will make Thanksgiving and Christmas
 look like nothing.
 MUSIC: FINALE

1. ANNOUNCER: Well there's an old saying to the effect that a good
2. deed never goes unrewarded. We're going to hear more
3. about this French Canadian who earns his living by
4. trapping in the national forests, next week.
5. Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers are presented by the
6. National Broadcasting Company, with the cooperation of
7. the United States Forest Service.

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24. VH:2:25
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